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R 281627Z SEP 73 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, OCON, XN, US, RO SUBJECT: FISHERIES: ICNAF

REFS: (A) BUCHAREST 3474 (B) STATE 167508

- 1. DEPT FAILS UNDERSTAND REFERENCE TO STANDARD PERCENTAGE REDUCTION PARA 1 REF A. US HAS REPEATEDLY STATED THAT REDUCTIONS SHOULD NOT RPT NOT BE APPLIED EQUALLY, BUT WILL DIFFER FROM COUNTRY TO COUNTRY DEPENDING ON VARIETY OF FACTORS, MOST RECENTLY IN PARA 6 REF B. POINTS RAISED BY OCANOAIA HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED, PARA 9B REF B, BUT THAT DOES NOT RPT NOT MAKE ROMANIANS ENTIRELY BLAMELESS IN CURRENT ICNAF CRISIS.
- 2. WITH REGARD TO QUESTION ON 40 PERCENT REDUCTION, PARA 2 REF A, THAT FIGURE WAS EXPRESSION OF DESIRED EFFORT RE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DUCTION OVER EFFORT APPLIED IN 1972. LAST FIGURE WE DIS-

CUSSED AT COPENHAGEN WAS 25 PERCENT REDUCTION IN CATCH OVER AVERAGE OF LAST THREE YEARS IN TERMS OF AN OVERALL QUOTA SUPERIMPOSED ON INDIVIDUAL SPECIES QUOTAS. SECOND TIER QUOTA WOULD BE LESS THAN SUM TOTAL FIRST TIER QUOTAS. WE SPECIFICALLY DID NOT RPT NOT ADVANCE PERCENTAGE IN RECENT REPRESENTATIONS BECAUSE EXACT PERCENTAGE TO BE AGREED IN OTTAWA WILL DEPEND BOTH ON HOW REGULATION IS FORMULATED AND CURRENT SITUATION WHICH WILL BE RE-EXAMINED IN OTTAWA. US GOAL REMAINS SAME, HOWEVER, I. E. PERCENTAGE REDUCTION MUST BE SUFFICIENT BOTH HALT DECLINES IN STOCKS AND START MEANINGFUL REBUILDING PROGRAM.

- 3. DEPT DOES NOT RPT NOT UNDERSTAND REFERENCE TO RECENTLY ALLOCATED QUOTAS IN PARA 2 REF A. COPENHAGEN MEETING REACHED NO RPT NO AGREEMENT ON QUOTAS FOR SA5 AND SA6 EX-CEPT ZERO QUOTA FOR HADDOCK. TENTATIVE AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON FIRST TIER QUOTAS (INDIVIDUAL SPECIES) BUT THAT AGREEMENT FELL WHEN NO RPT NO AGREEMENT REACHED ON SEC-OND TIER QUOTA (LESS THAN SUM OF FIRST) AND OTTAWA MEETING CALLED TO DEAL SPECIFICALLY WITH THAT FAILURE. INDIVIDUAL QUOTAS TENTATIVELY AGREED ON DID INCLUDE QUOTAS ON HERRING AND MACKEREL. BUT IT WAS CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THOSE FIGURES WERE SUBJECT TO REVIEW AND READJUSTMENT AT JANUARY 1974 SPECIAL ICNAF MEETING WHEN THOSE TWO SPECIES WILL BE SPECIFICALLY CONSIDERED. THE FIGURES REFERRED TO WERE IN THE LAST PROPOSAL DISCUSSED, WHICH GAVE ROMANIA A FIRST TIER TOTAL OF 18,064 METRIC TONS. SECOND TIER QUOTA WOULD HAVE REDUCED THIS TO 13,875 METRIC TONS, AS AGAINST 1972 LANDINGS OF 5,435 METRIC TONS (YES, A VERY SUBSTANTIAL IN-CREASE OVER 1972, WHICH TOOK INTO ACCOUNT ROMANIA'S SMALL CATCHES AND RECENT ENTRY INTO THE FISHERIES). WE FAIL UNDERSTAND HOW ROMANIA COULD EXPECT MORE FAVORABLE TREAT-MENT THAN SHE HAS ALREADY BEEN SHOWN IN COPENHAGEN DIS-CUSSIONS WHERE ALMOST EVERY NATION WAS LISTED FOR SUB-STANTIAL REDUCTIONS IN SECOND TIER QUOTA OVER 1972 CATCH. (THESE FIGURES WILL NOT RPT NOT NECESSARILY REMAIN THE SAME IN OTTAWA DISCUSSIONS, OF COURSE.)
- 4. DEPT ALSO FAILS UNDERSTAND PROPOSAL FOR JOINT SCIENTIFIC GROUP, PARA 3 REF A, SINCE ICNAF'S STANDING COMMITTEE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON RESEARCH AND STATISTICS (STACRES) BRINGS TOGETHER SCIENTISTS FROM ALL ICNAF NATIONS TO POOL THEIR INFORMATION AND MAKE JOINT SCIENTIFIC FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMISSION. DIFFICULTIES WERE ENCOUNTERED WHEN POLISH AND SOVIET SCIENTISTS HELD OUT FOR WHAT WE CAN ONLY CONSIDER TO BE UNREALISTICALLY HIGH FIGURES ON HERRING AND MACKEREL IN PARTICULAR. INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO DATE ON 1973 CATCHES SEEMS TO CLEARLY INDICATE THAT THEY WERE

WRONG, I. E. CATCHES ARE POOR. THIS DEMONSTRATES THAT WHEN THERE IS SCIENTIFIC DISAGREEMENT, ONLY RATIONAL COURSE OF ACTION IS TO TAKE CONSERVATIVE APPROACH, FOR IF FIGURES ARE SET TOO HIGH THERE MUST BE ADVERSE RESULTS BUT IF FIGURES ARE SET TOO LOW THERE CAN BE LATER UPWARD ADJUSTMENT IN CATCH.

5. SINCE REF A SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT ROMANIANS STILL DO NOT RPT NOT CLEARLY UNDERSTAND ICNAF SITUATION, DEPT REQUESTS EMB TAKE SPECIAL PAINS TO TRY ENSURE ABOVE POINTS ARE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD. KISSINGER

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